

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DHA-02 /097 W
-----221923Z 057652 /44

R 220156Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8762

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

MTN GENEVA 799

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, ADB

SUBJECT: MARCOS ADDRESSES ADB ANNUAL MEETING

1. SUMMARY. DURING SPEECH OPENING ADB ANNUAL MEETING, PRES, MARCOS REMARKED THAT PHILIPPINES IS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND THAT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NOT IN CONFLICT WITH HUMAN RIGHTS. MALAYSIAN CHAIRMAN OF ADB BOARD ALSO ASSERTED LDC CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN LATER SPEECH. MARCOS STATED THAT ADB RECORD IN PAST TEN YEARS IS GOOD, BUT THAT UNCERTAINTIES CLOUD THE FUTURE. HE RECITED RELATIVELY MILD VERSION OF LDC DEMANDS ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

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2. PRESIDENT MARCOS OPENED THE TENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ADB IN MANILA ON APRIL 21. FOLLOWING FAIRLY STANDARD COMMENTS ON ADB CONTRIBUTION TO ASIAN DEVELOPMENT, MARCOS TURNED TO IMPORTANCE OF ADB IN THE PHILIPPINES. UNABLE TO RESIST OPPORTUNITY FOR PLUGGING CURRENT REGIME, HE CLAIMED RP IS EXAMPLE OF HOW COUNTRY, "ONCE IT ATTAINS LEVEL OF STABILITY," CAN DEVELOP WITH CAPITAL RESOURCES

FROM FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

3. APPARENTLY WITH AN EYE ON CONGRESSIONAL SENTIMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIS-A-VIS IFI'S, AND WITH RECENT VIST OF CODEL WOLFF FRESH IN HIS MIND, MARCOS INCLUDED PASSAGE LATE IN SPEECH IN WHICH HE ASSERTED THAT THE GOP IS "DEEPLY COMMITTED" TO HUMAN RIGHTS, A COMMITMENT WHICH STEMS FROM A BASIC CONCERN FOR HUMAN WELFARE. DEVELOPMENT WILL NOT, HE SAID, BE PROCURED AT THE EXPENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. DURING LATER ADDRESS, CHAIRMAN OF THE ADB BOARD OF GOVERNORS, TENGKU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH, ALSO PICKED UP THIS THEME BUT GAVE IT DIFFERENT TWIST, STATING THE THE LDC'S CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IS FUNDAMENTAL, ROOTED IN A RIGHT TO LIVE FREE FROM HUNGER AND SUFFERING, THUS TIED TO SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF CURRENT NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES.

4. MARCOS STRUCK AMBIVALENT NOTE WITH RESPECT TO PRESENT STATE OF DEVELOPMENT, STATING AT ONE POINT THAT LDC'S SERVED BY ADB ARE IN "MUCH BETTER SHAPE THAN TEN YEARS AGO," BUT LATER NOTING THAT COUNTRIES MAY NOT YET BE REALIZING TANGIBLE BENEFITS FROM INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPMENT. HE THEN REFERRED TO "TERRIBLE CLOUD" WHICH HANGS OVER DEVELOPMENT BECAUSE OF NEW UNCERTAINTIES IN WORLD ECONOMY, RESULTING IN NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR TENSIONS AND CONFLICT.

5. MARCOS TICKED OFF A "PARTIAL LIST" OF NEEDS IDENTIFIED AS NECESSARY IN THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER: STABILIZATION OF EXPORT INCOME, INCREASED RESOURCE TRANS-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FERS (TO 0.7 PERCENT OF DC GNP), TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND ACCESS TO EXPORT MARKETS. HE SAID THAT SOLUTIONS ARE NEEDED NOW, AND THAT THE LDC'S WILL NOT BE DIVERTED BY DEBATE.

6. IN BRIEF REFERENCE TO ASEAN, MARCOS SAID HE SEES IT AS EXPRESSION FOR GREATER REGIONAL COOPERATION, AND THAT ADB CAN PROBABLY INTERACT MORE WITH ASEAN AND WITH OTHER REGIONAL GROUP GROUPINGS.

7. COMMENT. CONSIDERING THAT MARCOS WAS THE G-77 SPOKESMAN AT LAST YEAR'S UNCTAD CONFERENCE, HIS REMARKS SEEM FAIRLY MILD. HUMAN RIGHTS REFERENCE SEEMS TO REFLECT CONTINUING, PERHAPS HEIGHTENED, SENSITIVITY ON THIS SCORE, AND UNEASINESS OVER ITS POSSIBLE RELEVANCE TO IFIS.
END COMMENT.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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